

I. Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace, without prejudice, all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-70. (Cancelled)

71. (New) A system for providing reliable transport of data between a client computer system and a server computer system through a computer network, comprising:

a server protocol stack executing at the server computer system;

a client protocol stack executing at the client computer system and communicating with the server protocol stack through the computer network, the client protocol stack and server protocol stack cooperating to determine successful transmission of data between the client computer system and the server computer system and to appropriately retransmit data between the client computer system and the server computer system upon a determined failure; and

wherein the determination of a failure in transmission is performed with reference to predefined criteria and wherein a software application executing on the client computer system can select the predefined criteria for the client protocol stack from a set

of predefined criteria, each predefined set of criteria being suitable for a different set of transmission circumstances and software application types.

72. (New) The system of claim 71 wherein the set of predefined criteria includes definitions for retransmission timeout intervals and permitted number of failed transmissions.

73. (New) The system of claim 71 wherein the selection of the predefined criteria from the set of predefined criteria is in response to a data transmission metric determined at the client computer system.

74. (New) The system of claim 71 wherein communication between the client protocol stack and the server protocol stack is achieved via sockets.

75. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the predefined criteria is selected by the client protocol stack when establishing a socket to the server protocol stack.

76. (New) The system of claim 71 wherein the communication between the client protocol stack and the server protocol stack is achieved via sockets and wherein the predefined criteria selected by the client protocol stack can be changed after the socket has been established.

77. (New) The system of clam 76 wherein changes to the predefined criteria are made in response to changes in the data transmission metric.